



MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF STATE MUSEUM

ANGÈLE DAVIS
SECRETARY

ROBERT E. WHEAT
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MITCH LANDRIEU WELCOMES NEW MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Landrieu Appoints Blue Ribbon Search Committee for New Museum Director

Lieutenant Governor Landrieu swore in a new Board of Directors and briefed them on his plans to bring economic growth to Louisiana through its culture today at the Old U.S. Mint. Lieutenant Governor Landrieu also appointed a Blue Ribbon Search Committee made up of respected business, community and education leaders from across the state to conduct a national and international search for a new museum director.

Landrieu stressed the importance of both the museum's role as a cultural asset and attraction and the responsibility of the Board to build upon successes of the past while moving into the future saying that, "Our cultural resources are here just waiting to be mined. The State Museum, its exhibit and its programs are an asset that needs to be preserved but also needs to continue growing and showcasing all aspects of Louisiana's wonderful culture."

Landrieu swore in new board members and presented an orientation to better acquaint the new members with his vision for the museum and its operations.

Ron Forman, newly elected Board President, accepted the honor and responsibility of the position saying, "We have a great opportunity to strengthen the Louisiana State Museum system. By defining a vision and formulating a plan for the State Museum, we can increase its visibility and credibility throughout the State and the nation, enhancing our climate for growth."

Angele Davis, Secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, briefed the new Museum Board of Directors about their role as one of the five agencies that make up the entire department and brought them up-to-date on many of the projects currently underway in the State Museum system.

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“The State Museum is an important part of our efforts to grow the tourism industry and promote Louisiana as a top cultural destination,” said Davis.

These projects include a new Baton Rouge branch, an expanded Patterson facility, a Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in Natchitoches, a Civil Rights Museum (tentatively planned for New Orleans) and a Civil Rights trail linking historic sites statewide. These and future projects will enrich communities physically and intellectually and make them more attractive for visitors.

Another ongoing project that will fall to the new board members is the completion of an assessment study by independent contractor and expert in the field of museum management, Robert Macdonald. The study is intended to assess the museum’s current operations, its assets and liabilities, its relationship to Louisiana’s other private and public museums and cultural resources, and how the museum’s governance, organization, and operations compare with similar public museums and museum systems in the United States.

Upon completion in March 2005 the findings will be presented to the Lt. Governor Landrieu, the Board, staff, and Secretary Davis. Davis calls the information “invaluable in the constant mission of the museum to continue growing and improving the organization itself as well as the lives of Louisianans.”

The Louisiana State Museum and its Board of Directors will also take a prominent role in working with other cultural institutions and state agencies to better market their resources. The idea of improving the state through cultural development was the topic of the major Cultural Economy Initiative Conference held in New Orleans last December under Landrieu’s administration.

Louisiana State Museum Board meetings are held at the Old U.S. Mint, 400 Esplanade Ave., New Orleans and are open to the public. For more information or specific meeting times and dates, contact 504-568-6968.

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The Louisiana State Museum Executive Committee

Ronald L. Forman, New Orleans, LA	Board President
Mary Davis, New Orleans, LA	Secretary
Judy M. Bajoie, New Orleans, LA	Assistant Secretary
Andrew Rinker Jr., New Orleans, LA	Treasurer
Charlotte Donald Walter, Shreveport, LA	Assistant Treasurer

The Louisiana State Museum Board of Directors

Jerry Adams Patterson, LA	Tracie Boutte Baton Rouge, LA	Pamela Chenevert Baton Rouge, LA
Nathalie diBenedetto Baton Rouge, LA	F. Rivers Lelong Jr. New Orleans, LA	George R. Montgomery Baton Rouge, LA
Sharon Pennington Baton Rouge, LA	Rhenda Saporito New Orleans, LA	Harriet Shea New Iberia, LA
Rebecca Stokes-Joy Abbeville, LA	Geraldine Taylor Sunset, LA	Joseph West New Orleans, LA

The Blue Ribbon Selection Committee

Renae Conley, Co-Chair	Dr. Scott Cowen, Co-Chair	
Tracie Boutte	Christian T. Brown	Angèle Davis
Mary Davis	Ronald L. Forman	Alice Foster
Dr. Norman Francis	John Kalleborn	Andy Kopplin
Sharon Pennington	Jennifer Eplett Reilly	Rhenda Saporito
Virginia Shehee	Eugenie Huger Sloss	Leon Tarver
Dr. Charles Teamer	Father Kevin Wildes	



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Meeting of the Board of the Directors

Louisiana State Museum

January 14, 2005 - 1:00p.m.

Old U.S. Mint

New Orleans, La.

AGENDA

- 1. Introduction by Lieutenant Governor Mitch Landrieu**
- 2. Swearing in of Board members**
- 3. Orientation of Board members**
- 4. Selection of Officers**
- 5. Appointment of Committees**
- 6. Call to Order**
- 7. Approval of Minutes - December 1, 2004 Meeting**
- 8. Report of Chairman**
- 9. Report of Director**
- 10. Committee reports:**

A. Accessions

- 11. Organization Reports**
- 12. Old Business**
- 13. New Business**
- 14. Public Comment**
- 15. Adjournment**